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Alexandria Gazette

WEATHER REPORT
Fair today. Tomorrow partly cloudy and warmer; moderate winds, becoming southeast and south.
High tide 1:40 a. m. and 1:50 p. m.

VOL CXXXII—No. 108

ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA, WEDNESDAY, MAY 10, 1916.

PRICE 2 CENTS.

CITY COUNCIL HOLDS MEETING

Business Presented Last Night Was, in the Main, General

ONE HOUR'S SESSION

Both Boards Pass Resolution for Employment of Expert to go Over Water Company's Books

There was a bare quorum—nine members—present at a meeting of the common council last night. This number was not obtained until 8:25 o'clock. There was but little debate on the matters presented, the session lasting an hour. In the absence of Clerk D. R. Stansbury, who is in Lynchburg, N. S. Greenaway, clerk of the corporation court, acted as clerk.

On the recommendation of the finance committee the sum of \$150 was appropriated, to be spent under the direction of that committee, for employing an expert accountant to go over the books of the Alexandria Water Company, in connection with the investigation of the rates of that company now being made before the State corporation commission at the instance of a number of water takers.

Councilman Bryan, chairman of the finance committee, stated that G. L. Bothe, attorney for the water company, said he would like to appear before the committee when it took up the matter of considering the appropriation as did also Attorney Howard W. Smith, representing the water takers. He added that Mr. Bothe said the water company had no objection to the passage of the resolution, but hoped that the city would not place itself in a position antagonistic to the Water Company.

Councilman Bryan said the committee found precedent for making such an appropriation as several years ago when it made an appropriation of \$500 to help the commuters in their fight on the electric line.

Councilman Brumback asked if the Water Company disclosed the contents of its books before the investigating committee. He said he understood that the company had testified fully.

President Smith explained that the object of this appropriation is to enable the citizens to prove their side of the case.

A letter was received from the Alexandria County Civic Federation seeking to have Alexandria join in the movement to be inaugurated by the state having for its object the establishment of reciprocal relations for automobilists of Virginia and the District of Columbia. This was referred to the joint committee on streets and general laws.

A letter from C. Lee Moore, state auditor, setting forth that the city's apportionment of salary of judges for this circuit is \$329.67 was referred to the finance committee.

Petition of Preston O. Cockey, to lay board sidewalk in front of 526 King street, for display purposes, same to be temporary, was granted with certain restrictions.

Resolution of Councilman C. S. Taylor Burke, for construction of four foot granite sidewalk on north side of overhead railroad to Russell road was referred to street committee. Another resolution of Councilman C. S. Taylor Burke that council direct the city engineer to arrange for removal of ashes in recently annexed territory was referred to street committee.

Mr. Burke also introduced resolution for sewer on north side of Wilkes street between Fairfax and Lee streets and it was referred to committee on finance and streets.

NOTICE TO WATER TAKERS

The mains of the Alexandria Water Company will be flushed Tuesday and Wednesday May 10 and 11th, beginning at 6 p. m. House keepers are requested to supply themselves with clear water.

HARD SHELL CRABS NOW ON SALE AT RAMMELS CAFE

Resolutions of Councilman Marbury, chairman of street committee, appropriating \$200 for purchase of broken stone for general street repair work and \$250 for vitrified brick for same purpose were adopted.

A resolution providing that property owners desiring improvements deposit a sufficient sum of costs made by the city engineer with the city. It was explained by Councilman Marbury that the street committee wants authority and hence its introduction.

Resolution of President Smith appropriating \$500 for cleaning gutters where there is a stagnant water etc., was referred to the joint committee on streets and finance.

Petition of Postal Telegraph Company for reduction in license fee was referred to the finance committee.

An ordinance to adopt and approve the \$70,000 bond issue, prepared by the auditor, was adopted.

Councilman Bryan, chairman of the finance committee, explained that New York lawyers to whom the matter had been referred by the bidders for these bonds desired council to pass an ordinance approving the bond issue, and that this had been done by Attorney S. G. Brent. The measure was adopted.

Ordinance to establish crown curb grade on Russell road to corporation line was adopted.

Petition appropriating \$2,800 for sewer on Duke street between Payne and Peyton streets was referred to committees on finance and street.

The sum of \$75 was appropriated for fire hydrant on Mount Vernon avenue.

Resolution providing for employment of watchman at city gas works was referred to light committee.

Resolution of Councilman Ballenger providing that the mayor appoint special policemen for bowling alleys, moving picture houses and also to look after automobiles, they not to receive compensation from city, was referred to joint committee on general laws and finance.

On the recommendation of the light committee it was decided to place two incandescent lights in Fayette alley between Fairfax and Lee streets.

The joint committee on finance and fire recommended that \$1,500 be appropriated for purchase of 1,500 feet of fire hose, introduced by Councilman Desmond, and its report was adopted.

An act to appropriate a part of city revenue for fiscal year ending May 31, 1917 was referred to the finance committee.

Petition of Mary Rose to remove house 427 North Pitt street, to a point on Oronoco street between Royal and Pitt streets, was referred to street committee.

Board of Aldermen.

All the members of the Board of Aldermen were present last night.

President Field, appointed Mr. Wilkins a member of the Finance Committee upon the part of the Aldermen in place of the late J. M. Hill, member from the First Ward.

Mr. Summers introduced a resolution providing for the appointment of a watchman at the city gas works. It was referred to the Committee on Lights.

The board concurred in the action of the Common Council by unanimous votes upon all papers sent in. There was no discussion upon any measure which came up.

TO THE MERCHANTS OF ALEXANDRIA.

We beg to announce we have opened a wholesale produce and commission house in the old Goldsmith stand, corner of King and Lee Sts., where we will carry in stock at all times a full line of vegetables, and fruits of good quality at right prices. We are giving you an opportunity to do your buying in Alexandria, thereby avoiding delays and expense in getting your goods.

Tomorrow morning we will have a complete line of Poultry, Eggs and Green Vegetables.

We will be glad to have you call and get our prices.

ALEXANDRIA WHOLESALE COMMISSION MERCHANTS
Whitstone and Clark.

DEVILED & HARD SHELL CRABS AT JACOB BRILL'S FOOT KING ST.

FORCES HASTILY REDISTRIBUTED

Gen. Funston Sends Important Messages to Gen. Pershing

CARRY OUT NEW PLANS

Arrangements For Mobilization of New Mexico Militia—Troops Move Along All Lines

Columbus, N. M., May 10.—The American expeditionary forces were hastily redistributed and points along the lines of communication strengthened today, following receipt of important communications by Gen. Pershing from Gen. Funston last night.

Troops were moving all along the line, carrying out new plans and the base camp became unusually alert to guard against unforeseen incidents.

Throughout the night, "casuals"—soldiers detached from their regiments for various reasons—were being issued guns and equipment under orders to go into Mexico early today, and one company of the Sixth Cavalry was ordered across the border without horses or motor trucks. These troops had returned for remounts, but authorities here decided not to give them new horses, for the time being.

A heavy guard was thrown about the camp last night, while the wireless crackled with a constant flow of communications between Funston and Pershing. Outposts were moved farther from town and every passer-by was halted. A triple guard was thrown about the big gasoline tanks containing thousands of gallons of the explosive fluid.

Arrangements were made today for mobilization here of the New Mexico militia. It was not known definitely when the first troops will arrive, but part at least, were expected today.

LOCAL BREVITIES

The Ladies Association of Mt. Vernon convenes at Mt. Vernon tomorrow and will be in session about ten days.

An alarm of fire was sounded at 10:20 this morning, the department being requested to repair to Duke and Commerce streets. Upon arriving there the firemen were unable to find a cause for the alarm.

Herring, blue fish, white perch, flounders, bass and large row shad, Potomac Fish Co.

Harry B. Roland, son of Policeman Charles Roland, while playing ball on the school lot yesterday fell and broke his left arm above the wrist. He was given medical attention by Drs. Warfield and Moore.

Come to Lee Camp Hall tonight and get delicious home made ice cream, cake and strawberries. The Junior Daughters of Mary Custill Lee U. D. C. invite you at seven o'clock so don't miss it.

The regular monthly meeting of the 17th Virginia Regiment Chapter, will be held in Lee Camp Hall tonight at 7:30 o'clock.

TO STRIKE IN EGYPT

The Turks Making Preparations for Another Advance

Berlin, May 10.—Preparations for another advance on Egypt are being made by the Turks, the Overseas News Agency reports.

"The construction of a railroad through the desert is being rushed according to Constantinople dispatches," the news agency says.

"In view of their defeat at Quatia and the possibility of another surprise attack the British are conducting aeroplane raids constantly along the front east of the canal with the intention of destroying the railroad. The native tribes have been deeply impressed by the recent British failure."

SECOND DAY'S SESSION

Officers Elected at State's Council of Knights of Columbus

Today

Reports showing the Virginia State Council of Knights of Columbus and its associate councils to be in good condition, both from a financial and numerical standpoint, were presented by the officers at the second day's session of the state convention at the Elks' Auditorium today.

After selecting Petersburg for its next annual convention the following officers were elected this afternoon to serve for the ensuing year:

M. Kivlighan, state deputy, Staunton.
C. W. Noel, state secretary, Roanoke.

Thomas E. Dyson, state treasurer, Alexandria.

James M. Gallagher, state warden, Petersburg.

John J. Blake, state advocate, Richmond.

Rev. W. T. Whearty, state chaplain, Portsmouth.

James L. Martin, past state deputy, Lynchburg.

State Deputy M. Kivlighan, Staunton and James L. Martin, past state deputy, Lynchburg, were chosen representatives to the supreme convention which will meet in Davenport, Iowa, next August, and George E. Holmes, of Norfolk and Thomas A. Murphy, of Richmond, were chosen alternates to the foregoing representatives to the convention.

The state council tendered a vote of thanks to the members of Fitzgerald Council, No. 459, this city, for the hospitable manner in which they were received during their sojourn in this city.

This afternoon the delegates will be taken on a ride to Arlington and Fort Myer and tonight they will be tendered a smoker and social session in St. Mary's Hall.

At the dinner which was tendered the delegates at the Ellis cafe at Mt. Vernon last night speeches were made by a number of delegates lauding George Washington and thanking the Alexandria members for their hospitality. State Deputy Kivlighan, of Staunton, was the toastmaster.

Those who spoke were:
Rev. Joseph J. Kelly, pastor of St. Joseph's Church, of this city;
Rev. James Gilson, state chaplain, of Roanoke; Rev. L. F. Kelly, of this city; John G. Blake, past grand knight, of Richmond; C. A. McHugh, grand knight, of Richmond; Dr. Edward A. Gorman, past district deputy, of Alexandria; J. J. Sheehan, past state deputy, of Roanoke; Dr. J. M. Burke, of Petersburg; A. B. Degges, grand knight, of Norfolk;

F. J. Doherty, grand knight, of Lynchburg; Thomas E. Dyson, State advocate, of Alexandria; M. E. Greene, grand knight of Alexandria; J. F. Slifer, grand knight, of Portsmouth; Daniel Crimmins, past grand knight, of Staunton; Thomas A. Murphy, grand knight, of Richmond; and George Eakins, past grand knight, of Newport News.

Previous to the dinner a memorial wreath of lilies, tied with red, white and blue ribbon, was placed on Washington's tomb by the delegates. The visiting delegates, accompanied by members of Fitzgerald Council, No. 459, Knights of Columbus, this city, were escorted to the tomb by Supt. Dodge, of Mount Vernon, and the wreath was placed on the tomb by state Deputy M. Kivlighan, of Staunton.

A ball was given last night in the Elks' Auditorium in honor of the guests; and it was attended by several hundred members of Fitzgerald Council, No. 459, of this city, and their friends. Music was furnished by a section of the Marine Band.

Before adjourning yesterday afternoon the convention sent a telegram to President Wilson expressing its sympathy and loyalty in the European crisis. A telegram was sent Rt. Rev. D. J. O'Connell, bishop of the diocese of Virginia.

CHARTER GRANTED.

The State Corporation Commission yesterday issued a charter to the Lightfoot Mining Company, Inc., Alexandria. Capital \$250,000. Mining business. George M. Jacobs, president, New York; Harold H. Jacobs, secretary, New York.

GERMAN DRIVE AGAIN FAILS

Teutons Hurl'd Back From Hill 304, Paris Reports State

END DRIVE ON VERDUN

French War Office Announces Slackening of Attack of Crown Prince Against Defenses of Stronghold.

Paris, May 10.—A slackening in the German bombardment of French positions northwest of Verdun was reported in today's official statement from the war office.

East of the Meuse, and in the Woëvre region there was only intermittent bombardment during the night.

Halted in repeated assaults against the Hill 304 positions, the Germans did not return to the attack on the northwestern front of Verdun last night.

The only infantry fighting on the Verdun front occurred in Avocourt road, where there were unimportant grenade struggles.

In upper Alsace a German reconnaissance attempting to capture a French post at Hirzbech was repulsed.

Paris, May 10.—After a violent bombardment of the French positions on Hill 304, on the Verdun front the Germans attempted an advance at 3 o'clock yesterday morning. The War Office announces that the attack was repulsed completely. French counter-attacks east of the Meuse drove the Germans from certain positions they had captured.

The positions recaptured by the French consisted of some parts of trenches northwest of Thiamont.

An intense bombardment was conducted by the Germans in the sectors of Elix and Châtillon and between Douaumont and Vaux.

There was grenade fighting at Apremont and in the valley of the Fecht. South of Autrech, near Sissons, the Germans attempted an attack, but were repulsed.

At Bolante, in the Argonne, the French captured two small German posts, killing all the occupants.

Elsewhere on the front there were no important developments.

It is said that a Prussian division which was engaged on Sunday on the Haudremont wood-Thiamont farm-Douaumont fort line lost more than 50 per cent. of its effectives.

The battle shows every sign of continuing. Artillery preparation now proceeding foreshadows fresh attacks on both banks of the Meuse. The fighting may even be extended to the Woëvre plateau as the German artillery was redoubling its fire there last night.

It is generally believed here that the German have transferred considerable forces to Verdun both from other sections of the western front and from the Russian front. It is noted that since the present offensive began on Thursday, the Germans have not renewed attacks such as were made in the preceding week, and other parts of the western line, especially those held by the British.

Berlin, May 10.—The capture of several French trenches on the Verdun front, south of Harcourt, was announced by the War Office yesterday.

The text of the official statement is as follows:

"In connection with our successes at Hill 304 we took, south of Termitten Hill, to the south of Haucourt several trenches by storm. Attempts by the enemy to recapture with strong forces the terrain lost on Hill 304 failed. The enemy's losses were heavy."

"Other attacks by the French on the east bank of the Meuse, in the district of Thiamont farm, were equally unsuccessful. The number of French taken prisoners there increased to three officers and 375 men, besides 16 wounded. Nine machine guns also were taken."

"On other parts of the Western front there were only a few patrol enterprises, which proved successful for the Germans."

The Italians have lost 3,000 officers since the beginning of the war, according to private statistics compiled in Germany. This includes killed, wounded or missing. Of these officers five were generals, 62 colonels, 104 majors and 544 captains.

PLOTTERS TO PRISON.

Fay gets Eight Years, Scholz Four and Daesche Two—Writs of Error Next Step.

New York, May 10.—Robert Fay, former lieutenant in the German army, convicted in the Federal Court Monday of conspiring to destroy munition ships of the Allies through bomb contrivances, was sentenced yesterday to serve eight years in the Federal penitentiary at Atlanta.

Walter Scholz, his brother-in-law, and Paul Daesche, also convicted, were sentenced to serve four years and two years, respectively. Judge Howe, holding that they did not originate the conspiracy and deserved less severe punishment than Fay. The three were also fined \$2 each.

Talking from the bench, beside which were heaped bombs, explosives and other exhibits introduced during the 10-day trial, Judge Howe said to Fay:

"According to your testimony you committed a grave crime against Germany by deserting your post and country, where you were engaged in lawful warfare, to come here, where you have committed still graver crimes against this nation for the purpose of helping Germany in the war. Altogether too many things have been happening in this country since the war commenced. This court is going to convince you and thoroughly warn others that this country is not a proper place in which to carry on the war, and that our laws are still binding notwithstanding the war in Germany."

Under the conspiracy of which the three were convicted, three other defendants are to be tried—Dr. Herbert Kienzle, Engelbert Bronkhorst and Max Breitung.

A writ of error was filed in behalf of Daesche and the bail of \$25,000 on which he has been at liberty was continued pending the disposition of the court.

Counsel for Fay and Scholz announced they would also file writs of error within a few days and ask for bail for their clients.

FIVE MEN KILLED

Double Explosion at Atlas Powder Company's Plant

Dover, N. J., May 10.—Five men were killed and approximately thirty five injured, many of them seriously, in a double explosion at the war munitions plant of the Atlas Powder Company, near Landing, shortly before 1 o'clock yesterday afternoon. Windows in Lake Hopatcong, summer hotels, and in towns for miles around, were shattered. The shock was felt throughout Northern Jersey.

At practically the same instant two dynamite mixing houses were blown to atoms. It is not known which exploded first, but that the shock of the first instantly set off the explosives in the other building is certain, though the two buildings were a considerable distance apart. Besides the two mixing houses a storage house for nitro-glycerin was destroyed.

The explosion shook the surrounding country with the force of an earthquake, rocking houses on their foundations, breaking down ceilings and shattering windows. There is not a single whole window within three miles of the scene of the explosion, and a number of the older houses nearly collapsed.

Most of the injured were reported to have been cut by flying glass or bruised by the falling of ceilings in other buildings.

The Landing plant of the Atlas Powder Company is one of the company's four high explosive plants, which are located in as many States, and covers about 600 acres. Between 600 and 1,000 men are employed.

FOR SALE.—The show cases formerly used by the Lozano Dry Goods Co. Apply B. Abramson, corner King and St. Asaph Streets. 5-3t.

NOTICE.

All persons practicing a profession or conducting business requiring a State license, are hereby given due notice to make application for same at Room 7, City Hall, on or before the 15th of this month.

CHAS. H. CALLAHAN,
Commissioner of Revenue.

SINKING OF THE STEAMER CYMRIC

State Department Begins Probe of Latest German Act

NO WARNING IN CASE

United States Consul Reports That Submarine Made No Investigation of Ship's Character

Washington, D. C., May 10.—The State Department has begun an investigation of the sinking of the White Star liner Cymric, which occurred while the last note of the United States was on its way to Berlin. Consul Frost, at Queenstown reported that the Cymric was torpedoed, evidently without warning. After this report was received Consul General Skinner cabled a Lloyds report giving the names of three other vessels torpedoed within the last few days. The State Department immediately made inquiries through consular sources to determine the facts in all these cases.

Consul Frost reported that the Cymric was "in Admiralty service." State Department officials said this mere fact alone did not justify unwarned submarine attack unless it were shown the liner actually had been requisitioned by the British Admiralty. The vessel could be chartered by the Admiralty and used for the transportation of war supplies without becoming a part of the British naval forces, in the Department's view.

The Department is proceeding on the assumption that the Cymric was a merchant vessel, since it was pertained to clear as a merchantman from New York on its present trip. Without presuming to form final judgment on the insufficient facts now at hand, the Department is inclined to view that the ship falls within the category of vessels that should be visited and searched to determine whether it actually was of belligerent character. The fact that there probably were no Americans aboard the Cymric, that she did not carry passengers and that she was heavily laden with war material for the allies make it appear extremely unlikely that the United States would raise an issue over the incident.

WIFE SETS SELF AFIRE

Saturates Clothing With Oil After Domestic Quarrel

Baltimore, May 10.—Because a slight domestic quarrel had ensued when \$5 had been lost, Mrs. Mamie Geckler, 19 years old 2411 East Chase street, became despondent yesterday afternoon and set herself afire. After from head to foot she rushed into the bedroom of her husband, whom she awakened, and declared that she was going to die. August Geckler, the husband leaped from the bed and smothered the flames with a blanket, himself being badly burned. The couple, who have been married a little over a year, are now in St. Joseph's Hospital. It is feared the young woman will not recover.

The \$5 bill, the cause of the disagreement, disappeared simultaneously with a boy to whom Mrs. Geckler entrusted the money when she sent the lad on an errand. The quarrel is said to have occurred yesterday morning before Geckler, who is a dairy teamster, left for work.

Geckler returned home at about 2 P. M. and ate dinner with his wife. He then went to his bedroom for a few hours' sleep. At 3 o'clock he was awakened when his wife rushed into the room, holding aloft an oil lamp, the contents of which she had poured over her clothing. Her garments were ablaze. Geckler was half asleep and did not realize what was happening until his wife spoke. Hysterical, she screamed that she was going to die.

Horror-stricken, Geckler leaped from the bed and seizing a blanket wrapped it about his wife, who had fallen to the floor.